

ELSTREE AND BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Thursday **23rd October 2008** at Hertsmere Borough Council Civic Offices, Borehamwood, starting at 19:30 hours.

PRESENT: Councillors: F Turner, Mayor (Chairman), P Strack, Deputy Mayor
K Bright, M Bright, E Butler, R Butler, H David, G Franklin,
P Hedges, J Heywood, M Heywood
in attendance: Joel Charin Town Clerk
Paul Welsh Entertainments Officer
also present: 3 members of the public

1 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE & SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. A Mitchell and P Swallow.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests, though Cllr. E Butler stated that he had been on the management committee of Home Start until May 2008 and Cllr R Butler stated that he was Vice Chair of the Twin Towns Association.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th July 2008 were approved and signed as a true record.

4i ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

The Mayor welcomed the new Clerk and thanked the Deputy Clerk for all he had done in recent months.

Since the last Council meeting the Mayor has attended numerous functions and events but wished to highlight the AGM of the Brookside Boys Club and to encourage those councillors who had not already done so to visit the club.

The Mayor updated members on the Hertsmere Community Partnership, the Bikers Project and the Museum.

After much consideration, the Mayor has declined an invitation to visit Fontenay in November.

Members were reminded that the next Council meeting is on December 17th, a Wednesday and not a Thursday, as is usual.

4ii REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES SERVING ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Twin Towns Association - Cllr. R Butler was given permission to speak on behalf of the Twin Towns Association and asked if a Remembrance Day wreath was to be sent to Fontenay.

It was **agreed** to send a wreath, provided it was made clear that the wreath was from the Town Council. A laminated copy of the town crest is to be inserted.

MIND - Cllr. Hedges reported that he had met the local MIND group at one of their weekly meetings.

Youth Council - Cllr. J Heywood reported that the last meeting of the Youth Council had been very well attended, though minutes had yet to be produced.

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5 Minutes of Committee meetings

Minutes of the following Committee meetings were noted:

Environment and Planning Committee - 7 August 2008
General Management Committee - 13 August 2008
Entertainments Committee – 21 August 2008
Environment and Planning Committee – 4 September 2008
Environment and Planning Committee – 2 October 2008
General Management Committee – 9 October 2008

Cllr E Butler requested that the removal of notice boards in the town be put on the agenda for the next General Management Committee meeting. A discussion about notice boards ensued in which Cllr J Heywood explained that the notice boards had been the property of the Borough Council, which does not intend replacing them. Cllr J Heywood had investigated the cost of such notice boards, which is in the region of £8,000 each. There was a consensus that the town would benefit from two to three notice boards and possible locations were suggested, including the station, Tesco's and the retail park.

It was **agreed** that the Mayor approach Tesco's with a view to sharing the cost of a new notice board.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk consider locations for two or three notice boards.

With reference to the minutes of the General Management Committee of 9 October 2008:

it was **agreed** to extend the service level agreement for the PCSO until 2012; and, it was **agreed** to increase by 5% the budget for the PCSO and to provide a budget for the PCSO's radio.

6 REPORT OF THE CLERK

There was no report from the Clerk

7 REPORT OF THE ENTERTAINMENTS OFFICER

The Entertainments Officer's report was received.

8 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The following Schedule of Accounts, as approved, were **confirmed**:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Voucher Nos</u>	<u>Total Payments</u>
7 August 2008	203-219	£24,145.50
15 August 008	220 - 225	£2,241.08
5 September 2008	226 - 240	£12,767.75
16 September 2008	241 – 253	£6,943.29
25 September 2008	254 – 260	£1,296.42

9 FURTHER ACCOUNTS

There were no further accounts circulated for approval.

10 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 2008

Members received the financial statements for month ending September 2008.

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11 GRANT APPLICATIONS

The following applications for grant aid were considered and resolved as stated below.

a Elstree Cricket Club

A grant of £1,200 is to be made for roof replacement.

b Home Start

A grant for course fees and reasonable travel costs only.

c Elstree and Borehamwood History Society

Whilst the Council remain supportive, decision deferred whilst Clerk seeks clarification as to the exact purpose of the requested £10,000 grant.

A discussion took place concerning the Borehamwood Times office, which is adjacent to the Elstree & Borehamwood History Society; now that the newspaper's office is being reduced in scope and may be at risk of closure. It was agreed that the Mayor send a letter to the newspaper group expressing the strong concern of the Council as to the effect closing of the local newspaper office would have on the town.

CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 20:35 hours.